

**CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Monday, September 13, 2010**  
**The Center of Clayton - Multipurpose Room C**

**The following members were present:**

Alex Berger	Jessie Hoagland
Ira Berkowitz	Eric Schneider
Mimi Deem	Mark Winings
Rosemary Hardy	

**Excused/Absent**

Brad Bernstein  
Marguerite Garrick  
Judy Goodman  
Omri Praiss

*Also present:*

Patty DeForrest  
Eric Gruenenfelder  
Liz Hickox  
Tim Hohenstein

**Approval of Minutes:** The meeting minutes from the May and June meetings were approved as read.

**Addresses from the Audience:** Ms. Katherine Love, from the Old Town neighborhood, spoke to the Commission about the proposed improvements to the Hanley House. The three focal points of her presentation included the following:

1. Preserve green space. The residents who live in close proximity to Hanley Park do not want any new construction at the Hanley House to take over the green space. They truly value their park space. Also, residents are happy to sponsor events at the house but prefer that events remain on a smaller scale, so there is privacy for the neighborhood.
2. Ms. Love stated that the Hanley House is located on a small space that is only one lot deep. The size of the property is like many of the houses in the neighborhood. Since this is the case, residents feel like there is not space for any additional structures to be built at Hanley Park.
3. The final point of the report focused on the fact that the drawings the architects came up with are huge and almost as large as the Hanley House. Some residents went to the site and mapped out the measurements the architects proposed in Hanley Park Master Plan.

Ms. Love and a few other residents will put together a printed report for the Commission.

**Director's Report**

- Inclusion Playground Update – The Shaw Park Tree Top Playground will be completed in three weeks. One of the components will arrive in about a week. The playground dedication will take place on Saturday, October 16. More information will be sent to the commission by end of week.
- Smoking Ban – The smoking ban in parks ordinance was adopted by the BOA at their last meeting. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2011. All City of Clayton green space will be smoke free, as well.
- Projects – only small projects will be conducted in FY 2011. The focus will be on infrastructure to existing facilities. We received a partial grant for the new playground surface for Taylor Park. It will be Poured-In-Place. The lap pool at Shaw Park Aquatic Center will be re-painted. We are working on potentially getting a new sculpture for Oak Knoll Park. The financials look good and are in line for the end of this fiscal year. The expenses are where they should be, as well. The pool season was outstanding.

**Master Plan Updates**

- **Hanley Park** – Ms. DeForrest reviewed the proposed ideas from the second Hanley Park Master Plan Public Forum. The main focus was on the comfort station PowerPoint slide and the size of the shelter. Ms. DeForrest noted that these concepts are only recommendations and the consultants are not moving forward with anything at this time. One of the ideas that was discussed was whether or not the comfort station could be the size of the summer kitchen. If so, it would eliminate having an open pavilion. The residents from Old Town noted that concept one places the pavilion in close proximity to

three neighborhood homes. In concept one the ADA accessible ramp design requires fewer pathways to be created when compared to concept two.

It was noted that concept two has less impact on houses. The estimated cost of either concept is in the neighborhood of \$300,000. The neighbors indicated that, if some type of shelter is built, they definitely want it to be much smaller than the one proposed by the consultants. Concept two would require more construction impact from the back and side of the Hanley House. A resident from the audience said that we have to be careful when dealing with historic sites. It is important not to cause any confusion between modern and historic buildings; therefore it would be best to make a new structure look different than the summer kitchen. Ms. DeForrest said the design includes moving storage into the new structure, thereby eliminating the need for the storage structure. According to code, this site may be required to have a male and a female restroom. The preferred site would be located in the corner because it would be tucked in better, and sets back further from the neighboring house.

It was suggested by the neighbors that the planners use minimal dimensions. The neighbors are not saying Hanley Park is not meeting their needs right now. The neighbors stated that they cherish the passive nature of Hanley Park. Ms. Deem said it is a very good idea to choose a plan which will have the least impact on neighbors. At the same time, we need to determine what we can do to help the community better utilize the Hanley House. Ms. Hoagland agreed with Ms. Deem. Ms. Hoagland believes that there are many people in the community who are interested in utilizing Hanley Park. Ms. DeForrest said the sense is; we are not building either one of the proposed structures. The footprint and the height of the structure are the issues.

Ms. Hardy suggested that it would be very helpful for the Commission members to take a trip to Hanley Park to make it much easier to get a visual of what these concepts would look like at the site.

Mr. Berger said the only immediate issue that needs to be addressed is ADA compliance. The Hanley House does not currently operate well without restrooms and without ADA accessibility. The house is a functioning asset and restrooms will immediately improve operations. We should not keep the house open if it is not meeting ADA requirements. The back porch is where the ADA ramp would be located. We are only required to have the first floor accessible. The design for the porch is complete; however there is no funding for completion at this time.

- **Shaw Park** – Ms. DeForrest reviewed the information from the second Master Plan Public Forum. The main focus was on the Shaw Park Ice Rink, Bicentennial Park, trails, and nature gardens. The proposal for the ice rink is to make it a multi-use facility with a shaded structure above the rink. The plan for Bicentennial Park would be to make it the main entry to the park, and would include a restaurant between the ice rink and the pool. The structure would be glass so you could see through to the park. Trails would also be incorporated at the Bicentennial entrance and throughout the park. Further, the trail would take the place of some of the service roads. Instead of creating an amphitheater, we would have a nature garden at the north end of Shaw Park. There would be interpretive signage along the trail. The plan to have underground parking and an amphitheater were removed from the original design. There are large parking structures nearby including the City's garage on Bonhomme and by the Metrolink.

The Commission is ready to take the Shaw Park Master plan to the BOA. Mr. Winings made a motion stating that the Commission supports the Shaw Park Master Plan concept plan designed by SWT. Ms. Hardy seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Ice Rink End of Year Report** – (See attached PowerPoint presentation for additional details) Ms. Hickox and Mr. Hohenstein, the Parks and Recreation Department's Athletic Supervisors, conducted the Ice Rink end of Year presentation. The report included a 2010 fiscal year summary. New public skate sessions were added which worked out really well and attributed to increases in daily admission and season pass sales. More residents are bringing guests too. Forty-seven percent of the ice rink revenue came from ice rink rentals and party room rentals. The maintenance expenditures continue to grow primarily because the system is old and has to be worked on rather often. Johnson Controls is the company the City of Clayton contracts with to take care of the system, and their employees are responsible for taking care of the ammonia suppression system.

and start-up and shut down of the system. Ms. Hickox stated that the winter classic was cancelled this year due to rain. Winter Classics is not scheduled for this season because that group who organizes the event is looking into doing it every few years. The other primary expenditure is for personnel.

Future plans at the ice rink include the purchase of buckle style skates, which do not have as much wear and tear as regular skates. A mural will be painted on the party room wall. The dry wall ceiling in the Zamboni garage will be repaired. There will be a new event at the rink on New Year's Eve from 12:00 pm-11:00 pm. A skater appreciation day will take place in January and in February there will be a Family Fun Skate.

Mr. Schneider recommended that next year when staff puts together the ice rink report it would be helpful to include per capita rates, greatest peak times, scanned in information (cost per person) and marginal average costs. Mr. Gruenenfelder and Ms. DeForrest stated that they can start gathering data now. Ms. DeForrest also said it is often too warm to extend the ice rink season to March. Marketing of programs will be improved in order to increase revenue. There is a lot of potential in the community to continually improve and utilize the ice rink

**Old Business / New Business:** Ms. Hardy informed the Commission about the Flashlight Tours at the Hanley House on September 24.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Denise Ucinski